

the preferential treatment accorded to the product under the Agreement.

4. Further, the Agreement provides that the contracting parties shall be free to apply domestic legislation to restrict imports, in cases where prices are influenced by unfair trade practices like subsidies or dumping. Also, in the case of balance of payments difficulties, Contracting Parties may suspend provisionally the preferential treatment as to the quantity and value of merchandise permitted to be imported under the Agreement.

The FTA has been made operative by the issuance of Customs Notification on 1st March, 2000.

The FTA will accelerate the development of national economies, promote mutually beneficial bilateral trade and strengthen intra-regional economic cooperation.

Ropeway Service from Bhubaneswari Temple to Kamakhya

*90. DR. (SMT.) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to start ropeway service in the route of temple Bhubaneswari to Kamakhya and Kamakhya gate in Guwahati, which is regarded as a big centre of pilgrims among the people in and outside the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Development of infrastructure including setting up of ropeway service at pilgrim centres, providing facilities to the visitors at these places, their upkeep and maintenance is primarily the responsibility of the State/UT's Government concerned. However, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance for specific projects prioritized in consultation with the State/UT's Government every year. So far the State Government of Assam has not submitted any proposal for prioritization and for central financial assistance, for installation of ropeway services from Bhubaneswari temple to Kamakhya.